

Message Text

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64
ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-10 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /033 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:AJRIMAS:DAP

APPROVED BY EB/AN:RABROWN

ARA/CAR - G. PALAZZOLO

CAB - A. FISCH

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R 082251Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

UNCLAS STATE 056355

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FW

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PROPOSED TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF
SERVICE TO GUADELOUPE BY EASTERN AIRLINES

1. ON MARCH 4, 1976 EASTERN AIRLINES APPLIED TO THE CIVIL
AERONAUTICS BOARD (CAB) FOR AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND TEMPOR-
ARILY THE AIRLINE'S SERVICES AT GUADELOUPE FROM MAY 1, 1976
THROUGH MAY 1, 1978. AT PRESENT, GUADELOUPE IS SERVED
TWICE WEEKLY AS INTERMEDIATE POINT ON EASTERN FLIGHTS
BETWEEN SAN JUAN AND PORT OF SPAIN. EASTERN STATES THAT
THE ELIMINATION OF THE GUADELOUPE STOP WILL ENABLE THE
AIRLINE TO INCREASE ITS SERVICE FROM SAN JUAN TO
MARTINIQUE (FROM 6 FLIGHTS PER WEEK TO DAILY SERVICE) AND
TO ST. LUCIA (FROM 4 FLIGHTS PER WEEK TO 5). EASTERN
CALCULATES THAT ELIMINATION OF ITS GUADELOUPE SERVICE
WOULD RESULT IN 77,000 DOLLARS ANNUAL PROFIT IMPROVEMENT

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RESULTING FROM INCREASED TRAFFIC FROM MARTINIQUE AND
ST. LUCIA AND FROM THE SAVINGS ASSOCIATED WITH CLOSING

OF AIRLINE FACILITIES IN GUADELOUPE. EASTERN CLAIMS THAT IN 1975 IT HAS CARRIED ONLY 9 PERCENT OF TRAFFIC BETWEEN US AND GUADELOUPE AND IS NOT ABLE TO COMPETE EFFECTIVELY WITH AIR FRANCE WHICH HAS DAILY ONE-STOP SERVICE TO SAN JUAN.

2. INTERESTED PARTIES HAVE UNTIL MARCH 24 TO FILE STATEMENTS BEFORE CAB CONCERNING EASTERN'S APPLICATION. THE CAB HAS STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO MAKE FINAL DECISION.

3. EASTERN HAS INDICATED THAT LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN GUADELOUPE ARE BEING INFORMED OF THE PROPOSED SUSPENSION, AND THAT A COPY OF THE AIRLINE'S APPLICATION IS BEING SENT TO CONSULATE IN MARTINIQUE. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME APPROPRIATE COMMENTS FROM CONSULATE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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